

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-1067) (100-4000)

DATE: 7/12/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

SUBJECT: STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY (SDS)
IS - SDS

BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT, aka
RM

On 7/1/68 SA's HOWELL S. LOWE and WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE interviewed female Negro MURIEL JOY PATTERSON, girlfriend of EDWARD M. CARTER, JR., aka "Ted" Carter of 3710 Northwood. She is living at 289 Cynthia Place, a rooming house, phone 526-0495. She said she used to live with her mother, MARY M. JONES, 2024 Keltner Circle, Apt. 30, but does not get along with her mother. She said her landlady, Mrs. WILLA FONDA, took her in and took a liking to her.

[REDACTED]

1-100-4000 - SDS
1-157-1067 - BOP

1-157-1234 -

1-100-4593 -

1-100-4711 -

1-100-4582 -

1-100-4710 -

1-100- -

1-100-4618 -

1-157-1106 -

1-100-4321 -

1-100-4707 -

1-100-4708 -

1-157-1235 -

1-100-4394 -

1-157-957 -

1-157-927 -

1-157-1111 -

1-100-4528 -

1-100-4140 - Investigation Student Groups, College Campus

1-66-1687-Sub- Dissemination

WHL:wp

(21)

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MURIEL said her full name is MURIEL JOY PATTERSON, nee WESTBROOK. She claims birthdate as 9/4/37 at Chicago, Illinois. She claims she spent the majority of her life in Denver, Colorado; is separated from her husband, MICHAEL PATTERSON, who still lives in Denver, where he was last known to work as a baker. She had two children by this marriage; he has the children.

She has been in Memphis since about 1965; primarily worked at Pic Pac Grocery, McLeMore at Bellevue, from about May 1966 to September 1966; worked as teller, Tri-State Bank, September 1966 until June 1967; also worked as a security saleswoman for her uncle, DEADWICK BUITINAM, in Memphis. She is medium brown complexion, about 5' 4", 118 pounds, has small features, and is reasonably attractive, female Negro. She looks younger than the 31 years old she claims to be.

She said she has a white boyfriend, EDWARD M. CARTER, JR., aka Ted Carter, of 3710 Northwood. His parents are much opposed to their relationship, but his parents cannot control him. TED is very sensitive and very headstrong and "wants to save the world." He gets heavily emotionally involved in various projects. For example, she met him around February 1968 when both were supporting the Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike. He came heavily under the influence of Rev. MALCOM DOUGLAS BLACKBURN, white male, Pastor of AME Clayborn Temple, 280 Hernando Street, Memphis, which virtually served as strike headquarters. Also he was heavily influenced by GERALD FANION, male Negro, currently West Tennessee Director, Tennessee Council on Human Relations. TED and MURIEL participated in many of the sanitation workers marches, strategy meetings, and mass rallies. Through this they met such whites as Rev. RICHARD MOON of Westminster House, Memphis State University Student Center; SUSAN MACDONALD, MSU graduate student; LAURA INGRAM, MSU student; GEORGE LEONE, MSU student; CLIFTON RILEY TAYLOR, MSU German Instructor; WALTER M. ELLIS, MSU graduate student; and MSU students MICHAEL T. FISHER and RENE R. ROCHAT, a Belgian or Netherlands native. The latter two in the spring of 1968 rented an old white house at 187 South Somerville. This group used to hold a lot of inter-racial parties there. FISHER and ROCHAT lived on the second floor.

Through the strike TED and MURIEL also met some Black Power advocates who interchangeably refer to themselves as Invaders and Black Organizing Project. This group, headed by CHARLES CABBAGE and JOHN B. SMITH,

formerly had COBY V. SMITH as a leader, did meet at Clayborn Temple. MURIEL and TED attended a couple of meetings around March or April 1968. This group preached violence, saying the white power structure would not give the black man his dues and the blacks would have to take it. They did not become specific as to means or methods. JOHN B. and CABBAGE did most of the talking. COBY SMITH has drawn away from Invaders, due to personality conflicts and not philosophy. In fact, COBY is bitter in his hatred of all whites. COBY, CABBAGE, and JOHN B. had bitterly criticized MURIEL, a Negro, for dating TED, a white. COBY once ordered MURIEL to let her hair grow in a natural Afro style. She caustically told him she would "grow a natural when she went to Africa and not until then." She said neither TED nor she has attended any meetings at JOHN B. SMITH's apartment, 1644 Hanauer, Apt. 2.

Through the strike, she and TED met a white male, RICHARD JOSEPH RYAN, JR., and his girlfriend, KATHY ROOP, a Southwestern student. RYAN was in MSU. He has since run away from home about the first week in June 1968 to go ostensibly to the SCLC Resurrection City, Washington, D. C. TED went to Resurrection City about the same time but did not see RYAN. ROOP, who is spending the summer in Boston, Massachusetts, area, has not seen RYAN. TED, while in Washington, D. C., got enraptured with a group called the Resistance opposing the Vietnam war and Selective Service System. He went to New York, New York, with some of the Resistance movement. He has recently come home and now wants MURIEL to accompany him to New York to work in this movement. She does not want to go and has solicited GERALD FANION and MALCOM D. BLACKBURN to verbally induce TED to remain in Memphis. She feels TED is too much of a humanitarian, highly emotional, wanting to see all of the world's ills--war, race problem, and economic problems--solved overnight and for this reason the New Left and Black Power philosophies appeal to him. Basically he is not violence prone and due to his zeal and enthusiasm she feels he can be "used" by more sophisticated and realistic "movement people."

She has attended several inter-racial parties at 187 South Somerville. She recalled that once around April 1967 SUSAN MACDONALD, CLIFTON RILEY TAYLOR, MICHAEL FISHER, RENE ROCHAT, LAURA INGRAM, possibly GEORGE LEONE, WALTER ELLIS, and one JOHN (LNU), tall white male, poor eyesight (JOHN MARTIN GARDNER, III), LAURA INGRAM's current boyfriend, who lives across the street at 174 South Somerville, and others

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were there. EDDIE LEE JENKINS, male Negro, MSU student and Black Student Association (BSA) leader, may have been present. (She used to work at Pic Pac with JENKINS.) While there, a wierd looking white male, long dark hair, thin, possibly in 30's, with haunting looking grey eyes, came with a short stock male Negro student at MSU who rides a motorbike, name not recalled. The Negro by reputation is too militant for the BSA people, BSA being a part of BOP. RICHARD RYAN and KATHY ROOP may have been present but they are more on the fringe and to date not deeply involved. Also a boy named BOB, from around New York, New York, allegedly an MSU student, medium height, full face, was present.

The unknown white male solicited those present to form a Students for a Democratic Society chapter (SDS). He talked in a most articulate fashion, sounded convincing, but concluded that they would have to be prepared for supreme sacrifices, even to the point of possibly risking their lives. She said she told this unknown organizer that she could go along with him up to a point but she had only one life and intended to keep it intact. She did not know his name. [redacted] on 7/2/68 said this unknown person fit the description of CARL OGLESBY, SDS organizer who recently spoke at the joint SDS-SSOC conference in Athens, Georgia, 5/3,4,5/68. [redacted] said he had wierd grey eyes and was dirty looking, long dark hair, poor complexion, tall, thin, and in early 30's. [redacted] has never heard of OGLESBY being in Memphis.)

MURIEL also said that an older man, in late 30's at least, receding gray hairline, similar to DICK MOON's but thinner than MOON, used to come to 187 South Somerville and talk to them, urging them to unite and to organize along the lines of something like SDS.

She said EDDIE LEE JENKINS did not seem to go along with this idea.

She said that LAURA INGRAM used to go with MIKE FISHER, that during the spring of 1968 SUSAN MACDONALD made an obvious "play" for FISHER, that LAURA and MURIEL both resented this, that SUSAN is uncouth, egotistical, "stuck up" and at times treated MURIEL with disrespect, that SUSAN is not liked by her. She said SUSAN is now going with CLIFTON RILEY TAYLOR, who has a little German made sports car.